

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 8, with the following paragraph:

However, the conventional washing machine has a problem that since a receiving space should be obtained at the lower side of the tub 104 in order to install the ~~header~~ ~~heater~~ 130 therein for heating the laundry, the overall size of the washing machine is increased, and in addition, since water is filled in the heater-received space, water is much wasted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 13, with the following paragraph:

In addition, since water is heated by the ~~header~~ ~~heater~~ 130, a power consumption of the heater 130 is increased, use amount of detergent is increased, and washing time is lengthened.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 18, with the following paragraph:

The steam generator 24 is connected to a water supply tube 32 so as to receive water from an external source, includes a heater (not shown) therein in order to heat water to be supplied to by the water supply tube 32, and is connected to the spray nozzle 26 by a steam supply line 34.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 13, with the following paragraph:

As shown in Figure 3, the back-current preventing branch unit 30 includes a steam supply unit 50 connected to the steam supply line 34 and provided with steam, a circulation water supply unit 52 branched from the steam supply unit 50 at a predetermined angle, connected to the circulation line 38, and provided with circulation water, a nozzle connection unit 54 communicating with the steam supply unit 50 and the circulation water supply unit 52 so as to be connected to the spray nozzle 26, and a back-current preventing plate 56 for preventing either the steam supply unit 50 or the circulation water supply unit 52 in order to prevent steam or circulation water from flowing backward.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 13, with the following paragraph:

As shown in Figure 4, the spray nozzle 26 is provided with a flange unit 70 engaged at an end portion of the nozzle connection unit 54 of the back-current preventing branch unit, a nozzle unit 72 formed at a lower surface of the flange unit 70 and spraying water or steam, ; and a guide unit 74 for guiding water or steam to be uniformly sprayed into the drum from the nozzle unit 72. The guide unit 74 has a predetermined curved surface, so that circulation water or steam sprayed from the nozzle unit 72 can be uniformly sprayed to the laundry.